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And yet—what is the experimental basis of the conclusions? (1) Certain limited aspects of the changes produced in muscular, nervous and plant tissue by certain modes of stimulation, and (2) certain electrolytic effects appearing when moist conductors are brought into contact with metallic surfaces and these are caused to vibrate! The superficial analogy between these two classes of results (and under the former heading the results are not accurately described) is to read us the riddle of life and the mechanism of life! It may very well be that all these things "are determined . . . by the working of laws that know no change, acting equally and uniformly throughout the organic and the inorganic worlds;" at any rate, many of us hope that it is so. But knowledge is not advanced by the ignoring of large classes of facts and the application of a method of crude analogy to the rest.

More Letters of Charles Darwin: a Record of his Work in a Series of hitherto unpublished Letters. Edited by F. DARWIN and A. C. SEWARD. New York, D. Appleton & Co. 1903. Vol. I, pp. xxiv, 494; Vol. II, pp. viii, 508.

This is an extraordinarily interesting book. By the help of unpublished letters and other material not available for the *Life and Letters*, the editors have been able, with very few repetitions from the latter book, to give a practically complete account of Darwin's life work. The letters are grouped under the headings Evolution, Geographical Distribution, Man, Geology, Botany, Vivisection and Miscellaneous Subjects. Both volumes are illustrated: portraits are given of Darwin and his wife, of Romanes, F. Müller, Lyell, Forbes, Hooker, Henslow, Huxley, Gray and others. The editors are to be congratulated upon their completion of a work which will have a permanent value in the history of science.

Pure Sociology, by L. F. WARD. New York, The Macmillan Co., 1903. pp. xii, 607.

This bulky work contains the author's revision of lecture courses delivered in 1897-9 at the Universities of Chicago, West Virginia and Stanford. The writer "regards all social phenomena as *pure* which are unaffected by the purposeful efforts of man and of society itself." He consequently prints, as a sub-title: *A Treatise on the Origin and Spontaneous Development of Society*. The book falls into three parts: *Taxis*, which discusses the general characteristics of pure sociology, its subject-matter and methods; *Genesis*, which treats of the biological origin of the subjective faculties, of social mechanics, statics and dynamics, and of the social forces, ontogenetic, phylogenetic and sociogenetic; and *Telesis*, which deals with the biological origin of the objective faculties, the conquest of nature, and the socialization of achievement.

Les grand philosophes: Aristote. Par C. PIAT. Paris, F. Alcan, 1903. pp. viii, 396.

M. Piat is the editor of the collection entitled *Les grand philosophes*, nine volumes of which have already appeared, among them a study of Socrates from his own pen. The present work is a useful monograph on the Aristotelian system. It is divided into four books: *Being* (definition of first philosophy; determination of the categories; substance; the derivatives of substance; causes), *Nature* (movement; the unmoved mover; the heavens), *Mind* (mind and its faculties; nutrition; sensation; thought; desire), and *Conduct* (the individual; the family; the city). A Conclusion traces the course of naturalism from Plato to Aristotle, and from Aristotle to Strato. The book is fully